



# Postgraduate study

[acu.edu.au/postgradstudy](http://acu.edu.au/postgradstudy)

# Postgraduate study at ACU

If you're ready to advance your career, change career or explore an interest, postgraduate study at ACU can help.

We offer graduate certificate, graduate diploma, master's and PhD qualifications.

## Why choose us?



**Top 2%**

UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE<sup>1</sup>



**5 stars**

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT<sup>2</sup>



**Top 10**

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES  
WORLDWIDE<sup>3</sup>



**1st or equal 1st  
in Australia**

CARDIORESPIRATORY  
MEDICINE AND HAEMATOLOGY

CLINICAL SCIENCES

COGNITIVE SCIENCES

HUMAN MOVEMENT  
AND SPORTS SCIENCE

NURSING

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

PSYCHOLOGY

PUBLIC HEALTH  
AND HEALTH SERVICES

RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES

SPECIALIST STUDIES  
IN EDUCATION<sup>4</sup>

1. *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022*. Percentage calculated as ACU's world rank as a proportion of the total number of universities in the world: *International Handbook of Universities 2019*, Palgrave MacMillan

2. *Good Universities Guide 2022*, postgraduate students

3. Based on International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) members ranked on *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021*

4. Four-digit FoRs, Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018

## Acknowledgement of Country

In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' deep spiritual connection to Country, and in continuing the university's commitment to reconciliation, it is customary to acknowledge Country as we pass through it. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the First Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways where Australian Catholic University campuses are located, and we thank them for their continued custodianship.

# Our campuses

We've got seven campuses around Australia, and a campus in Rome, Italy. We also have a fully online learning platform: **ACU Online**.

Each one is unique, but they're all dynamic, inviting and great places to learn.

To take a virtual tour of your campus, visit [acu.edu.au/tour](http://acu.edu.au/tour)



BALLARAT



MELBOURNE



BLACKTOWN



NORTH SYDNEY



BRISBANE



STRATHFIELD



CANBERRA



ROME, ITALY

**“ACU values strongly align with my own, and I was looking for a course where I could evolve both personally and academically. I believe ACU facilitates this with morals and ethics ingrained in the course content, which in turn challenges students’ thoughts and perspectives on contemporary issues.”**

**Doug**  
Health administration student

# Postgraduate study pathways

In general, postgraduate study falls into two main categories: coursework and research.

## Coursework

- Programs are generally six months to two years full-time (or equivalent part-time).
- You can expect to do classes (including online classes), units and set assessments, similar to an undergraduate degree.
- To apply, you usually need to have completed an undergraduate degree first. However, professional experience can also be considered.
- The graduate certificate, graduate diploma and master's degree are connected and can build on each other.
- If you're considering a master's degree but don't initially qualify, you may be accepted into the graduate certificate or diploma in the same area of study.
- If you choose to study a master's degree but your circumstances change, you may be able to exit the degree early with the relevant graduate certificate or graduate diploma.
- Coursework programs are ideal for gaining new skills and getting ahead in your career.

## Research

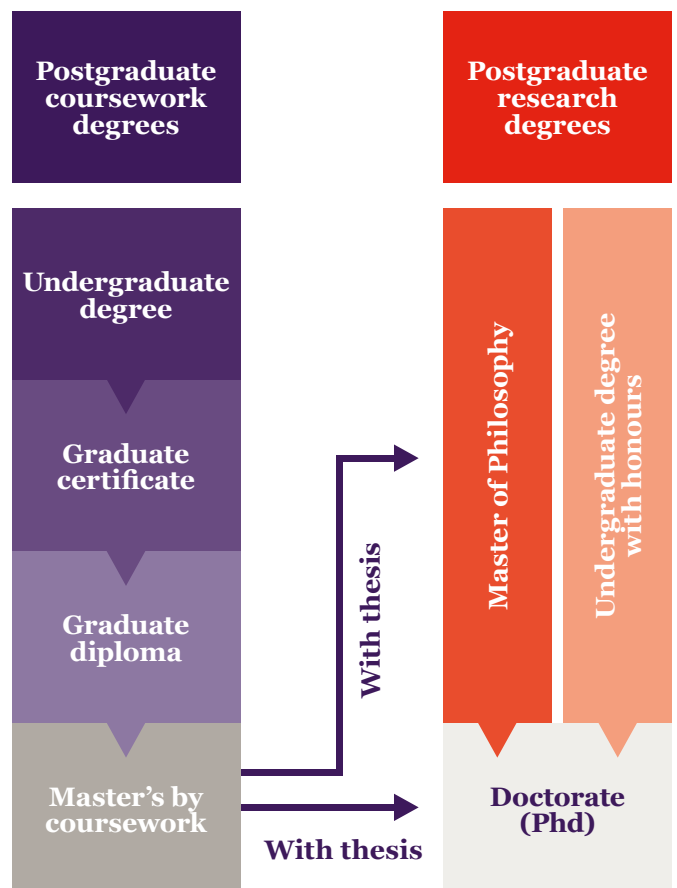
- Programs are generally two to three years full-time (or equivalent part-time).
- You can expect to do independent research and explore original ideas under the guidance of a supervisor.
- To apply, you usually need to have completed an undergraduate degree with honours, or a master's degree (with a thesis).
- ACU offers supervised research at either master's or doctoral level.
- Research programs are ideal for making a new contribution to an academic field. They can be a pathway to research or an academic career, or help you get ahead at work.

## Example pathways through postgraduate study

If you're studying at another university and would like to switch to ACU, or you have relevant knowledge and skills acquired in the workplace, you may be able to get credit towards your degree.

[acu.edu.au/priorlearning](https://acu.edu.au/priorlearning)

### EXAMPLE PATHWAYS THROUGH POSTGRADUATE STUDY



Honours degrees are also available. These are one-year degrees for high-achieving students who have already completed a bachelor's degree, and allow you to build upon your knowledge, develop research skills, and work closely with an academic expert. The chief focus of the

degree is to produce a research thesis under supervision from experienced academic staff. Some four-year bachelor's programs have honours embedded into the third and fourth years.

# Applying to ACU

## Postgraduate coursework degrees

- 1 Choose the course you would like to study by browsing [acu.edu.au/courses](https://acu.edu.au/courses)
- 2 Check important dates and application requirements carefully – some courses also require supporting documentation.
- 3 Check out the postgraduate scholarships available at [acu.edu.au/scholarships](https://acu.edu.au/scholarships)
- 4 Apply online directly to ACU at [acu.edu.au/courses](https://acu.edu.au/courses)
- 5 Accept your offer and enrol.

## Postgraduate research degrees

Application to ACU higher degrees by research, including the Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy, is by direct application to Candidature Services at ACU.

- 1 Choose the course you would like to study by browsing [acu.edu.au/courses](https://acu.edu.au/courses)
- 2 Check entry requirements and your eligibility.
- 3 Find a research supervisor at [rexr.acu.edu.au](https://rexr.acu.edu.au)
- 4 Check application closing dates.
- 5 Complete your application.
- 6 Gather your documents.
- 7 Submit your completed application.



For more information on how to apply for postgraduate coursework degrees, visit [acu.edu.au/postgraduate](https://acu.edu.au/postgraduate)

If you still have questions or need help with your application, visit [acu.edu.au/askacu](https://acu.edu.au/askacu)



For more information and to apply for postgraduate research degrees, visit [acu.edu.au/apply](https://acu.edu.au/apply)

If you still have questions or need help with your postgraduate research application, contact [res.cand@acu.edu.au](mailto:res.cand@acu.edu.au)

# Fees and scholarships

There are many options to help you manage the cost of study. Tuition fees depend on the course you enrol in, and there are two placement offer types: a fee-paying place, and a Commonwealth supported place (CSP).



## FEE-PAYING PLACE

A fee-paying place is not subsidised by the government, so you pay the full cost of the course. As a domestic fee-paying student, you may be eligible to defer payment of your fees through the FEE-HELP government loan scheme. Repayment of the loan occurs through the tax system once your income exceeds the minimum threshold. Your employer may also consider assisting with the cost of study if the course is related to your current position.

[studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)



## COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE (CSP)

A small number of postgraduate courses at ACU offer CSPs, where the government pays a proportion of tuition costs. The remainder of the fees are paid by the student, but eligible students can defer their payment through the HECS-HELP government loan scheme. Repayment of the loan occurs through the tax system once your income exceeds the minimum threshold.

[studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)



## RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM FEES OFFSET SCHOLARSHIPS

Domestic students enrolling in a master's by research or doctorate program at ACU receive a Research Training Program Fees Offset Scholarship and so are exempt from paying tuition fees. International students can apply for a tuition fee waiver.

[acu.edu.au/research-scholarships](http://acu.edu.au/research-scholarships)



## FACULTY ALUMNI REBATE

If you're an ACU graduate, you may be eligible for a 10 per cent rebate on postgraduate fees.

[acu.edu.au/alumni-rebate](http://acu.edu.au/alumni-rebate)



## POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer scholarships to help support you financially during your studies. Use our online scholarships portal to find the ones that are right for you.

[acu.edu.au/scholarships](http://acu.edu.au/scholarships)



## STIPEND SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer competitive scholarships with a stipend to help fund your living costs during your research, and to reward outstanding academic achievement. For international students, this includes a tuition fee waiver and an Overseas Health Care Policy.

[acu.edu.au/research-scholarships](http://acu.edu.au/research-scholarships)

---

Got questions? We're waiting with the answers.

[acu.edu.au/askacu](http://acu.edu.au/askacu)



# Online learning.

Jessica  
ACU graduate



# Human support.

Keen to study a university degree from the comfort of home? Introducing ACU Online – a range of new courses designed to be studied online.

If you're ready to upskill, reskill or are just beginning your career journey, studying with ACU Online is the perfect option.

Benefit from incredible flexibility, innovative course design, and gain the skills to achieve your goals.

And while you'll study at home, you won't be studying alone. With ACU Online, you'll have access to a range of services to provide ongoing, real-life support.



Learn more  
[online.acu.edu.au](https://online.acu.edu.au)



## More information

Throughout the year, we hold a range of webinars and events to help you with your study options. You'll have the opportunity to talk to lecturers, staff and alumni about course content and structure, graduate outcomes and more.

[acu.edu.au/future-students](https://acu.edu.au/future-students)

---

## Open Day

Every year we throw open our doors and invite you to join us on campus or online. If you've got questions, we'll be waiting with the answers at Open Day.

[openday.acu.edu.au](https://openday.acu.edu.au)

---

## Campus tours

Book a campus tour to see what sets us apart.

[acu.edu.au/campus-tours](https://acu.edu.au/campus-tours)

# Got a question or feeling social?

### AskACU

Visit: [acu.edu.au/askacu](https://acu.edu.au/askacu)

Call: 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228)

If you've got a question, our AskACU team has you covered. You can search the FAQs, text us, live chat or call one of our friendly AskACU staff – whatever works for you.

---

 [facebook.com/Australian.Catholic.University](https://facebook.com/Australian.Catholic.University)  [@acuimages](https://instagram.com/acuimages)

 [auscatholicuni](https://snapchat.com/add/auscatholicuni)  [@ACUmedia](https://twitter.com/ACUmedia)  [ACUsocial](https://youtube.com/ACUsocial)

---

Send us your details and we will keep you in the loop about courses, events, information sessions and more.

[acu.edu.au/postgradstudy](https://acu.edu.au/postgradstudy)



ACU is committed to sustainability. This document is printed on paper sourced from PEFC-certified, sustainably managed forests.

Disclaimer (June 2022): Information correct at time of printing. The university reserves the right to amend, cancel or otherwise modify the content without notice.